

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 26 and 42 have been amended. New claims 48-56 have been added. Claims 1-56 are now pending in the application. The objection and rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the remarks presented herein.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings have been objected to for allegedly not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicants respectfully submit that at least Figure 1 shows each feature of the claimed invention. In particular, a data link layer may be implemented by packet reception processing unit (40), scheduler/packet generation unit (30), and logical channel control circuits (20). Means for recording may be implemented by an input data buffer (50) (page 27, lines 7-9). In addition, the packet reception processing unit (40) is operable to perform as means for executing transfer, means for temporarily stopping transfer processing, means for monitoring, and means for comparing, as described in the specification on pages 26-28, 32, 33 and 42. Therefore, Applicants believe that the drawings show every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1-47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly being based on a disclosure which is not enabling. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants' invention relates to a system and method of controlling packet transfer conducted by a plurality of logical channels between nodes. Transfer is executed by each logical

channel based on an order of transfer. The order of transfer is included among information regarding transfer by each logical channel, which is recorded in a descriptor.

Applicants believe that the essential features of the invention are included in the claims. The specific features which Examiner believes to be missing from the claims and not enabled by the disclosure are addressed as follows:

The descriptor prepared by a management layer is enabled by the specification at least on page 23, lines 25-27, and as shown in at least Figures 1-3. In particular, an input data buffer (50) used by the management layer may be a means for recording information of the descriptor (page 27, lines 7-11). Claims 1, 26 and 42 broadly recite the recording of information regarding transfer by each logical channel in a descriptor, and newly added claims 51-56 recite the transfer of the descriptor to the data link layer more particularly.

The designation of a logical channel to transfer a descriptor to a data link layer is also enabled by the specification, as shown at least in Figure 2, in which a number of logical channel to be used (51) indicates the logical channel a packet is allocated to (page 27, lines 17-21). The preparation of the descriptor and the designation of a logical channel to transfer the descriptor may be embodied by a means for recording, which may record information in the descriptor, as Applicants' claims recite.

The analysis of the descriptor, setting up an appropriate packet, and execution of data transfer are also enabled by the specification. In addition, claims 1, 26 and 42 broadly recite the execution of data transfer by each logical channel based on information designated by the descriptor. The analysis, setting up, and executing data transfer may be embodied by a means

for executing data transfer which executes data transfer by each logical channel based on the information recorded in the descriptor, as Applicants claim. An exemplary embodiment of the means for executing may be the packet reception processing unit (40) of a data link layer, as shown in Figure 1. Newly added claims 51-53 also recite analyzing, setting up, and executing data transfer more particularly.

The recitation of a management layer confirming the transfer to complete the transfer is now also more particularly recited in newly added claims 48-53.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being based on a disclosure which is not enabling. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claims 1, 26 and 42, the claims have been amended to recite “channels between nodes” as suggested by Examiner. Also, “the order of transfer” has been changed to “an order of transfer.”

However, Applicants believe that the recitation in the claims of “information including information regarding an order of transfer” is not indefinite, because information is recorded in the descriptor, and that information includes the information regarding the order of transfer. The information regarding the order of transfer may not be the only information which is recorded in the descriptor. The information recorded in the descriptor is not limited to the information regarding the order of transfer, but may also include other information as well. Thus, the

recitation of “information including information regarding an order of transfer” is believed to be clear and definite.

Applicants also believe that the recitation in the claims of “said data link layer includes means for executing transfer” is also not indefinite, because the claimed data link layer in this communications system executes data transfer on a logical channel for controlling packet transfer conducted by a plurality of logical channels. Transfer is executed by each logical channel based on the order of transfer designated by the descriptor, as claimed. Figure 1 shows one exemplary embodiment of the claimed invention, in which a packet reception processing unit (40) of the data link layer executes data transfer, performing the function of monitoring, executing, and stopping transfer. Therefore, Applicants believe that the recitation in the claims of the data link layer including means for executing transfer is clear and supported by the specification. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 48-56 have been added to provide more varied protection for the present invention¹, and are believed to be in condition for allowance based on at least their dependencies as well as for their additionally recited features.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

¹ Support for these claims is found in the specification on at least page 23, line 21 to page 24, line 22.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/717,293
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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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